GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2062
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2002
ESTABLISHMENT OF WTO CELLS .
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether several State Governments have established WTO cells on the advice of Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the main function of these cells;

(c) whether these cells would consist of officers, experts from the agriculture, trade, industry sectors and farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which these cells have been helpful?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (e): Yes, Sir. The Government had advised all the State Governments/Union Territories toset up WTO Cells and appoint nodal officers to effectively coordinate various WTO related matters . The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Haryana,Punjab, Delhi, Tripura, Nagaland and the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli have established the WTO Cells. As the basic purpose for setting up of these cells was coordination between States and the Union Government on WTO matters, by and large these cells consist of Government officers. Some States like Karnataka have also involved academicians and other experts in the working of these cells. The inputs provided by some of the State Governments have beenuseful in formulating Government`s views on the issues involved in the negotiations on WTO Agreement on Agriculture.